

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 PC-01 IO-10 EB-07

OES-03 FEA-01 DHA-02 ORM-01 DOTE-00 CG-00 COME-00

OMB-01 TRSE-00 /090 W

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O R 011355Z SEP 75

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4096

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI PINS PINT AO

SUBJECT: ROUNDUP SEPTEMBER 1

1. WITH RESPECT TO THE COLUMN OF WHITE MERCENARIES THAT WAS SAID TO BE MARCHING ON SA DA BANDEIRA, A PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE AIRPLANE OVERLEW THE REGION SOUTH OF THE CITY AND FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF A COLUMN, OR OF ANY ACTIVITY THAT WOULD INDICATE THE PRESENCE OF LARGE NUMBERS OF TROOPS. THE PLANE DID NOT REACH PEREIA D'EA BECAUSE OF LACK OF FUEL, BUT ANOTHER PLANE WAS SENT OUT SEPTEMBER 1 TO RECONNOITER AREAS FURTHER SOUTH. ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER GENERAL MACEDO TOLD ME HE BELIEVES THE FORCE, WHATEVER ITS COMPOSITION, HAS LEFT ANGOLA. THEY MAY HAVE COME IN TO LIBERATE CERTAIN PEOPLE BEING HELD BY THE MPLA, OR TO FREE A REFUGEE CONVOY THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN HELD UP. AS THE PORTUGUESE MILITARY

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NO LONGER HAVE A PRESENCE IN THE FAR SOUTH THEY MUST RELY ON REP-

ORTS FROM CIVILIANS UNTIL THEY CAN GET AN OBSERVER INTO THE AREA.

2. THE FOREIGN JOURNALISTS HERE HAVE BEEN FILING STORIES ABOUT THE FNLA ADVANCE IN LUANDA. THE FNLA DID GET CLOSE TO THE BENGU RIVER, JUST NORTH OF QUIFANGONDO OVER THE WEEKEND, BUT THE MPLA HAS NOW PUSHED THEM BACK TO THE JUNCTION OF THE BARRA DO DANDE ROAD.

3. I HAVE CHECKED OUT THE STORIES OF KATANGUESE IN LUSO THAT I REPORTED EARLIER. THE PORTUGUESE MILITARY STILL MAINTAIN THAT THE KATANGANS HAVE NOT TAKEN UP ARMS ON BEHALF OF THE MPLA IN LARGE NUMBERS, ALTHOUGH SOME MAY HAVE BEEN BRIBED. THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT BEGAN PAYING THE KATANGANS A SUBSIDY IN MARCH

WHICH COMES TO AN END ON SEPTEMBER 30. THE IDEA WAS TO PROVIDE THEM WITH SUFFICIENT FUNDS TO MAKE IT UNNECESSARY TO SELL THEIR SERVICES TO ONE OR ANOTHER OF THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. THE MPLA TRIED FROM TIME TO TIME TO OBTAIN THEIR SERVICES, BUT WERE NOT SUCCESSFUL. TWO KATANGANS WHO JOINED THE FNLA NEVER MADE IT HOME AFTER THEY BECAME DISENCHANGED AND TRIED TO LEAVE. SEVERAL OTHERS JOINED UNITA, BUT SOON RETURNED HOME. NOW, WITH THE SUBSIDY COMING TO AN END, IT IS QUITE LIKELY THAT MANY OF THE KATANGANS HAVE LINED UP EMPLOYMENT. THEY NUMBER SOMETHING OVER TWO THOUSAND MEN, PLUS WOMEN AND CHILDREN. THE PORTUGUESE DISARMED THEM IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR, SO THAT WHOEVER TAKES THEIR SERVICES WILL HAVE ALSO TO EQUIPMENT THEM.

4. UNITA AND FNLA HAVE LEFT QUIDBALA, APPARENTLY WITHOUT A FIGHT, AND MPLA HAS TAKEN CONTROL OF THE TOWN.

5. A CAR TRANSPORTER ARRIVED AT THE DOCK LAST WEEK AND SAILED FOR LISBON OVER THE WEEKEND WITH OVER 1,000 CARS OF DEPARTING PORTUGUESE. KILLORAN

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Message Attributes

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